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RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2987  
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 9295  
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 5103  
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 3811  
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
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SUBJECT: FATA IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE FOR 03/14/08

¶1. (U) Summary: Below is a summary of US Mission Islamabad's activities in Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) along its northwest border with Afghanistan during the week ending March 14, 2008.

#### FATA Briefings

¶2. (U) In Peshawar on March 11, DCM briefed the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) Governor and the Chief Minister-elect on the Mission's FATA Development Strategy. His remarks were well received and the Governor especially appreciated Post's coordination with Political Agents. The Governor requested continued flexibility.

#### ODRP FATA Programs

¶3. (U) The first DoD funded equipment (separate from NAS) is starting to flow into the FATA, with 20 motorcycles scheduled to be delivered to the Frontier Corps on March 15. Plans continue to track for the civilian-military "contact group" initiated under a program from the Naval Post-Graduate school. In a welcome development, the event was embraced by the Army leadership, which approached the NWFP Governor to host.

¶4. (U) CENTCOM has decided to transition leadership of the Frontier Corps training mission from Army Central Command (ARCENT) to Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT). ARCENT and SOCCENT representatives will be in Pakistan from March 28 to April 10 as part of its transition plan.

¶5. (U) Border Coordination Center (BCC) Torkham becomes operational on March 29; RC-East (CJTF-82) is the implementer of the BCC concept and has invited Pakistan to attend at the two star level, including Major General Pasha, Director General Military Operations (DGMO).

¶6. (U) The Inspired Gambit Exercise Final Demo, which will include one platoon of the Frontier Corps, is scheduled for April 17.

¶7. (U) CENTCOM will conduct a Communications Site Survey of the Frontier Corps April 20-30 as a prerequisite to installing communications that facilitate command and control throughout the FATA and the border with Afghanistan.

#### USAID FATA Programs

¶8. (U) USAID provided a full briefing to key international donors (including the British, Dutch, Canadians, and Japanese) who met March 13 to review their projects. Although the Netherlands has not yet reinstated aid, Dutch officials are preparing for re-engagement. The Japanese noted that they may join USAID in an assessment of school-building projects; the Japanese, however, have only built four of 65 promised schools. USAID noted it plans to create a newsletter highlighting progress, issues and success stories related to the FATA Development Program. The first issue is scheduled for April 2008.

#### NAS Programs

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¶9. (U) March 12, Ambassador Patterson visited the Levy Training Center under construction in Khyber Agency. Completion is expected in late 2009 and the center will be used to support USG and GOP training for the FATA tribal Levy security force. NAS will deliver 78 converted 4x4 pick-up trucks to Frontier Corps NWFP during the next two weeks. These vehicles will be used for the movement of Frontier Corps personnel and equipment throughout the FATA.

#### FATA Overview

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¶10. (U) Principal Officer Peshawar indicated that the newly elected government may press to have the NWFP Civil Secretariat combined with the FATA Secretariat as a means of

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exercising greater control of the FATA bureaucratic machine. Such a move would also facilitate training, as personnel

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frequently rotate between the two secretariats.

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